

## THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

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PUBLISHED WEEKLY.  
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.  
INvariably in Advance.

Six months, 75 cents. No subscription for a less period received.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

**MONEY** sent us, otherwise than by registered letter, postal money order, or draft on New York, will be at the risk of the sender.

**AGENTS.**—We employ no agents. The NATIONAL TRIBUNE has many volunteer contributors, and they are generally honest and faithful; but persons who consider their subscriptions to them must be their own judges of their responsibility. The paper will be sent only on receipt of the subscription price.

**ADVERTISEMENTS.**—RENTALS, ETC.—Addresses will be changed as often as desired, but each subscriber should in every case give the old as well as the new address. In renewing subscriptions be careful to send us the label on the last paper received, and specify any corrections or changes they desire made in name or address.

**CORRESPONDENCE.**—Correspondence is solicited from every section in regard to Grand Army, Sons of Veterans, Pension, Military, Agricultural, Industrial and Household matters, and letters to the Editor will always receive prompt attention. Write on one side of the paper only. We do not return communications or manuscripts unless they are accompanied by a request to that effect and the necessary postage, and under no circumstances guarantee their publication at any special date.

Address all communications to:  
THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE,  
Washington, D. C.

## THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., JUNE 8, 1893.

## DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE WORLD'S FAIR?

## WE WILL GIVE YOU A FREE TICKET.

Our offer of free round-trip tickets to the G. A. R. National Encampment last year was so successful that we have decided to repeat the plan upon a larger scale for the benefit of intending visitors to the World's Fair at Chicago.

Last year hundreds of our readers got first-class round-trip tickets from their places of residence to Washington and return by a little effort in making up clubs for THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

Our plan worked very successfully—everybody was more than satisfied. Very many were able to visit Washington who wanted to do so very much, but felt that they could not incur the expense, and we gave them an opportunity which they gladly improved. There was nowhere a single expression of dissatisfaction.

We will do the same thing this year with regard to those who wish to visit the World's Fair. We will give a first-class round-trip ticket from any point in the United States to Chicago and return for a club of subscribers, proportionate to the distance the point is from Chicago.

This ticket will be for the most direct route between the two places, and it will have all the advantages in regard to the time for which it will be good, length of stay in Chicago, speed of trains, etc., that any first-class ticket will have. In brief, it will be the best kind of a ticket, which will be a great superiority, as there will doubtless be many tickets offered by various parties, inferior cars, limited as to time, etc. Our tickets will all be for first-class, fast trains, and have every privilege given the best class of tickets.

The carrying out of this scheme involves an immense amount of correspondence and clerical work on our part, and we are now preparing a schedule of the sizes of clubs which we will require from different points. We will publish this as soon as completed, which may be some time hence.

In the meanwhile, those who intend to work for these tickets should begin at once. They can send their subscribers as fast as they obtain them, notifying us that they are for a "World's Fair Ticket," and they will be properly credited to them. If they afterward change their minds they can have the subscribers sent in applied on any other premium that we offer.

We should very much like to have those who expect to get up clubs for these tickets write to us immediately of their intentions, as this will help us in making up our schedule. We will send them many number of sample copies they wish to show friends and acquaintances in the work of soliciting subscribers.

Remember, all names sent to count on this offer must be yearly subscribers at \$1 each. No subscriptions sent prior to April 1 will count on this offer.

We ask all our friends who want to go to Chicago to go to work at once. They can easily secure a round-trip ticket by a little work in pushing the circulation of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE. Mark all communications "World's Fair Ticket," and address THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, 1729 New York Avenue, Washington, D. C.

AGAIN we ask if it is possible that all the good soldiers died during the war, and only the bad ones lived to apply for pensions?

Will some pension-hater rise up and respond to our oft-repeated challenge to point out a single item of taxation imposed for the purpose of paying pensions, or which would be abolished if there were no pensions to pay? Just one, if you please.

So far the late Farman Post has not signified its acceptance of our offer to publish the records of its members in comparison with those of any other Post in the country. Don't be bashful, gentlemen; we will gladly give you the space, gratuitously.

A PROTECTORATE is talked of for Nicaragua. The best thing that all those little Central American Republics can do is to place themselves under the Government of United States Commissioners.

## THE BEST WAY

To get ready for the great fight for soldiers' rights is to get up big clubs for the veterans' champion, THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

The way to defend the pension system and secure its maintenance is to begin the fight now, when the pension-haters are doing their utmost to poison the public mind. Get up everywhere clubs for THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

## AN OPEN LETTER—II.

To Hon. William Lockren,  
Commissioner of Pensions.

COMRADE: Last week we addressed you a letter upon a subject of momentous importance to the veterans of the country, to yourself as an official, and to the Nation generally.

This was the satisfactory determination of the character of the pension roll—a matter of once vital as to consequence and urgent as to time.

The public mind is in a state of ferment upon it. The clamorous vituperation of the great mass of soldier-veterans has produced its natural effect. A large portion of the community, which has neither the time nor means of studying the pension question, has been moved by the energy and persistence of these attacks to seriously question whether the pension-roll is not strongly tainted with fraud. A still larger portion—including the veterans and their friends—are gravely disturbed lest, yielding to these clamors, there should be such radical reductions and changes in the pension system as will work incalculable injustice and cruelty to those whom the people want to have held in the highest estimation.

What the whole people want, and at once, is trustworthy information of the exact character of the pension-roll. They want this beyond expression. Their ears have been dinned by the noisy denunciations of the soldier-haters; their minds and hearts have been moved by the appeals for justice to those who sacrificed themselves to save the Nation. Now they long for exact facts upon which to base their judgment. You are in a position to give these facts, and that promptly. The whole community has confidence in your justice and fair-mindedness, and any facts you may present to it will have the greatest possible weight.

Last week we outlined a plan by which we are confident that you can, in a comparatively few days, lay before the public facts which it will at once accept as entirely conclusive, and end the vicious discussion by an irrevocable popular verdict. We then asked you to have drawn from the files of your office 500 or 1,000 cases of consecutive numbers of invalid pensions allowed at the beginning of the second or third years of Commissioner Black's administration, and a similar number for the same time in Commissioner Baum's administration, and that you make a list of these, accompanied by the information outlined in the following table:

Serial number of pension certificate.	Number of pension certificate.
Name and address of pensioner.	
Company and regiment.	
Date of enlistment.	
Date of discharge.	
Was he honorably discharged?	
When was original claim filed?	
When was original claim allowed?	
For what disability originally pensioned?	
How many times was he officially examined by Government Surgeons or Boards of Surgeons before the allowance of his original claim?	
Was the disability or disability for which pensioned found to exist at all these examinations, or either of them?	
What amount of pension was allowed by Pension Office in the original claim?	
Do records of War Department verify his service and discharge?	
Do records of War Department report him present or absent, sick or wounded, or prisoner of war at any time? If so, when was he?	
By whose sworn testimony was the claimant's conduct, physical and mental, corroborated?	
Give names and addresses of witnesses?	
What is the reputation of the claimant as a witness for truth and veracity as ascertained by you?	
If pensioner is now in the country, how much pension is he now receiving, and do you consider such rating just or not? If not, why?	
Has the pensioner died since the allowance of his original claim? If so, when, and how, and under what circumstances?	
Lastly, in your judgment, was the original claim properly or improperly allowed? If not, why?	

We will again explain that we desire the numbers taken consecutively, that they may give a fair idea of the character of the whole mass; that they be taken from some given time in each administration, so that they fairly indicate the nature of the administration of each Commissioner; and that an equal number be taken from the allowances under a Democratic and a Republican Commissioner, so as to forbid any suspicion of partisanship in the matter. If anything can be expected to add to the fairness of this procedure, we shall welcome it. Our only object is to get at the absolute truth with the utmost quickness and certainty.

We are confident that an examination of 1,000 or 2,000 cases taken in this manner will give such an idea of the character of the whole mass as will be taken by the public as entirely conclusive. If you feel

that a larger number will be still better, we will unhesitatingly agree to it.

Now, Comrade Lockren, we lack words sufficiently strong to impress upon you our feeling that this should be done at once. It will promptly settle the controversy now agitating the country. It will show undeniable facts that will either muzzle the mouth of detraction or hush the voice of appeal. It will give you a firm, sure basis for your pension policy. Should it show that the pension system is honeycombed with fraud the country will give you the most unqualified support in the most radical reforms you may inaugurate. Congress will give you all the money you need to prosecute wrong-doers, and you can fill the penitentiaries with culprits. If, on the other hand, it shall show that the Nation's justice to its defenders has been doled out meagerly and grudgingly; that weary years have been consumed in granting a pittance to a highly-deserving man; that he has been compelled to furnish more evidence than would suffice to hang him if he were on trial for his life, then the country will insist that you be given money enough to carry out the past liberal policy; you will have all the clerical force and other means that you need placed at your disposal to close up the whole pension business inside of a year or two, and give you a National reputation as an executive, as well as the supreme satisfaction to yourself of having been so effective an almoner of the Nation.

We respectfully submit the fact that THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE as the representative and spokesman of the veterans of the country urges this upon you ought to have great weight in determining you to adopt this plan. We know that it will satisfy the veterans, and we know that it will satisfy the country. It will satisfy the veterans, if there can be such an authoritative statement of the character of the men who are drawing pensions, and of their services. The records of any 1,000 or 2,000 veterans on the roll will show the country that they are the men who really fought the battles of the Union—that they received frightful hurts in performing that service, and that the pensions they receive are meager returns for all they did and suffered; on the other hand, the country is perfectly willing to pay any amount for pensions if it can be established that these were honestly earned, and that we are very sanguine will be conclusively shown by the plan we urge.

Comrade Lockren, this is the 8th of June. It is nearly three weeks till the end of the fiscal year. Can we not hope that you will do this before then, and so be able to begin your next fiscal year with a policy based on the facts developed by it?

Yours, in F., C. & L.,  
THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

## HALT!

There are some important facts to which we beg leave to call the earnest attention of the Honorable Secretary of the Interior.

The first of these is that the difficulty of veterans being able to prove that their disabilities were due to their service was a grievance which had been anxiously discussed for several years before the passage of the Disability Bill of June 27, 1890. The war had been a very long one; the fighting, marching, skirmishing, hardships, and exposures had extended over a series of years, the memory of the events of one day had been obscured by the still more exciting events and trials of the next, and, finally, the regiments had been mustered out and the members scattered to every point of the compass. There was hardly a regiment in the Union army but had members in every State and Territory, to say nothing of foreign countries. No matter how badly a man may have been hurt, if he was still able to march and keep up with his comrades, and stay out of the much-dreaded hospital, he was likely to find it very difficult to establish his claim to a pension in the years after the war when his immediate comrades and officers were either dead or gone he knew not where. In the pride and strength of his patriotic young manhood he probably concealed the extent of his hurt, or made light of it. The inevitable day came when he could no longer do this. Then he found it next to impossible to furnish the evidence required by the Pension Bureau to establish the service origin of his disability. It was the universal judgment of those conversant with the facts that it was the best class of soldiers who suffered from this. The weak-hearted, who went to the hospital at the first touch of pain, had no difficulty in furnishing a hospital-record, but the grim, resolute fellows who kept with the flag as long as they were able to stand on their feet, had no evidence of this kind to show, and suffered severely for it when their cases came before the Pension Bureau.

These well-known facts were discussed in every gathering of soldiers for years. They were made the subjects of countless memorials to Congress. They were set forth in numerous speeches in both Houses of Congress. They were considered over and over again in the Pension Committees of both Houses. For nearly eight years the subject was before Congress, and each House several times passed bills looking to the removal of this cause of complaint, and the result was the passage of the Disability Bill of June 27, 1890.

The then President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and the Commissioner of Pensions—all of them soldiers who had fought through the war with the utmost gallantry and steadfastness—gave the law an interpretation. For three years the law has been administered in that spirit, and fully two-thirds of those to whom it was intended to apply have received its benefits. The Congress held in the meantime have effectually approved of this interpretation by appropriating money to carry it out, the last Congress appropriating many millions to meet a deficiency arising under it. Even the Investigating Committee of Cooper and Endoe did not attack this interpretation, bitter as were their assaults upon

the general management of the Pension Bureau.

The work intended to be done now approaches completion. Probably less than one-third of the cases arising under the law remain to be settled. The responsibility for a ruling which will at once take from the roll hundreds of thousands of cases placed there under what at least seemed a proper interpretation of the law by the previous Administration is a very serious one. It is one that we feel no executive officer should assume.

Congress will meet in a few weeks now. Why not wait until it meets, lay all the facts before it and allow it to deal with the matter with as full and serious consideration of it as was given when the law was passed?

**PREBYTERIANS IN THE UNITED STATES**  
The general interest felt in the Briggs case has attracted much attention to Presbyterianism in this country.

The census of 1890 showed that there were 1,278,815 Presbyterians in the United States, divided as follows:

CHURCHES.	Organized.	Church members.	Value of church property.	Communicants.
Total	13,490	12,462	\$94,876,233	1,278,815
Presbyterian in the United States	6,717	6,665	74,435,200	788,234
Presbyterian in the United States	2,391	2,288	8,812,152	179,721
Methodist	187	189	625,875	12,722
Cumberland (col.)	228	192	202,961	13,439
Presented in previous bulletins:				
Cumberland Presbyterian	2,791	2,008	3,515,511	164,940
United Presbyterian	866	821	5,408,084	94,402
Associate Church of North America	31	23	29,200	1,033
Associate Reform	116	116	211,450	8,801
Reformed Presbyterian Synod	115	115	1,071,400	10,574
Reformed Presbyterian (General Synod)	33	33	469,000	4,602
Reformed Presbyterian (Covenant)	4	4	1	37
Reformed in the United States and Canada	1	1	75,000	600

"The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America" is what is generally known as the "Northern Presbyterian Church," although it has congregations in every State except Mississippi, and it is this body which has just concluded its General Assembly. "The Presbyterian Church in the United States" is commonly known as "The Southern Presbyterian Church," and has no congregations north of Maryland, Kentucky and Missouri.

The first great schism among the American Presbyterians occurred in 1741, over the interpretation to be given the Confession of Faith, and other doctrines, which had been brought into prominence by a great revival. Those who maintained a literal acceptance of the Confession of Faith were termed "Old Side," and the other party "New Side."

After staying apart for 17 years they finally reunited. In the beginning of this century a great revival movement in the Valley of Tennessee resulted in the separation of the "Cumberland Presbyterians" from the main body. In 1837 a dispute over the doctrine of atonement resulted in the division of the Church into Old School and New School, both divisions being of nearly equal strength.

The New School Presbyterians in the South separated from their Northern brethren in 1863, on the question of slavery, and the Southern Old School synods separated from the Northern ones in 1861, at the outbreak of the war. The New and Old Schools in the North united in 1868. Several attempts have been made to bring the Southern Presbyterians back into the fold, but without success.

Since 1869 the Presbyterian Church has grown more rapidly than at any previous time in its history. It is strongest in Pennsylvania, where it has 161,386 communicants; New York comes next, with 154,083 communicants, and Ohio third, with 82,444. The churches in New York are much the wealthiest, as their edifices are valued at \$21,293,992, while those of Pennsylvania foot up \$15,491,680, and those of Ohio but \$5,754,350.

Within three months after the passage of the act of 1890 there was an army of applicants of about the size of the entire enlistment in the civil war. No wonder the American eagle is mouling over the pension problem.

In the first place this is not true. The total number of enlistments in the Union army was 2,859,132; this would require 919,710 new applications for pensions to make the Post's assertion true. Really there were not one-third this number. Then, if it were true, it would not be astonishing. There are about 800,000 veterans living, substantially every one of whom suffers more or less on account of his service. Then there is the great army of widows, orphans, and dependent parents, who have suffered from the loss of their support and protectors.

An American who has been converted to Mahometanism in Hindustan has arrived in this country with the avowed intention of beginning a propaganda of the faith of the Prophet. As Mahometanism lays great stress on honesty, temperance, and truth-telling, he may be able to do some good. The trouble is that about all these who are strongly disposed to honesty, truth-telling, and temperance are pretty solid Christians already, and probably not disposed to change their profession of faith. It all depends on what inducements he can offer the other fellows to make them reform.

Have you done your duty in getting one more subscriber for THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE? You should do this, for it is the best way to help your comrades.

## AT IT AGAIN.

That sour and disappointed old man, Gen. H. W. Stocum, has broken out again. He has all his life suffered acutely from the fact that people generally did not rate him so highly as he did himself, and that he never got anything like the honors, promotions, and recognitions that he felt himself entitled to. During the war he was eaten up with bitterness of heart that those whom he considered inferior men should be appointed to command over him. It has been alleged that the reason he did not march to the assistance of the sorely-pressed Reynolds on the first day at Gettysburg, as Howard and others did, was jealous fear that he might help Reynolds win some reputation. It will be remembered that his corps was at Two Taverns, within a few miles of where the First and Eleventh Corps were making a desperate fight against the overwhelming numbers of the rebel army. Had he heeded the repeated calls for help sent to him, the first day at Gettysburg would have, in all probability, ended in a victory for the Union troops. The question of rank kept him out of the Atlanta campaign, in which his corps took a glorious part; and while it was fighting from Chattanooga to Atlanta, he was enjoying life in pleasant headquarters at Vicksburg. He was only gotten back into active operations on the March to the Sea by giving him a large command, with which, by the way, he never accomplished anything which attracted attention.

He cherishes a deep grudge against President Cleveland, because the latter beat him by one vote in the Democratic State Convention, secured the nomination for Governor, was elected by a big majority, and then went to the White House. He thought that Mr. Cleveland wronged him out of this chance of his life, and probably feels this as strongly to-day as ever, though he has of late been more reticent about it. Though he had been very slightly identified with the Grand Army of the Republic, he thought that it ought to elect him Commander-in-Chief, and was a strong candidate for that honor before the National Encampment at St. Louis. At that time his supporters talked much of his hostility to Grover Cleveland, but it was easily discovered that this hostility was purely personal. He has never forgiven the veterans for not electing him, and probably never will, and loses no opportunity to slur them. He is now out with another bitter letter, attacking the men who served the country as faithfully as he did, to say the least, and did it for \$13 a month, and without regard to rank, while he received the rank, pay and emoluments of a Major-General.

A MOVEMENT is said to be on foot to buy Cuba of Spain. Those who are in it will have their labor for their pains. Spain will not sell Cuba as long as the island remains as profitable pasture for the Madrid palace ring as it now is. We buy about \$80,000,000 worth of Cuban products every year, and a large proportion of the money paid for these is the booty of the "Ins" of the Government at Madrid. Some years we take as high as 98 per cent. of the exports of the island. The only way we are likely to get the island is by destroying its profitability to Spain by raising our own sugar and fine tobacco. Then we can have it for the taking.

No city in the United States is cursed with a worse municipal Government than New Orleans, but it is somewhat astonishing that a Grand Jury of that place should recommend the heroic treatment of taking away the city's charter by the State. Much the better way would be for the respectable citizens to assert themselves and break the power of the ringsters.

"RESIGNED" has now as harsh a meaning in Washington as "bounced," "fired out," or "removed." By whatever name called, the harsh fact remains that some unfortunate clerk or officeholder—too frequently a war-veteran—has lost his place and the means of supporting his family. The only fitness in the word is that the veteran is resigned to his fate, because he has to be.

The United States of Colombia want immigrants. There is the place for the Russians, the Chinese, and the Italians to go. Colombia has 500,000 square miles of territory—about 10 times the size of New York—and only 3,000,000 people. There is an abundance of good land, and any variety of climate, from tropical in the low lands to perpetual Spring in the Bogota region.

CANADA expected to be benefited by our restrictions on immigration, but has been disappointed by receiving fewer immigrants this year than last. Very singularly, the class of people whom we don't want, don't seem to want to go anywhere else.

THERE is some talk of ex-Vice-President Morton as the Republican candidate for President. The Republican party might do a great deal worse than make him its standard-bearer. He is an able, clean man, thoroughly American in all his make-up, and widely popular.

THEY have a new epigram in the South: "The North broke the Constitution to preserve the Union. The South broke the Union to preserve the Constitution."

THE lawyers are going to talk two months longer on the Bering Sea case. Fortunately, only those who are well paid for it have to listen.

If each subscriber to THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE will charge himself with getting one new subscriber the circulation of the paper will be doubled at once, and with little trouble. Let each subscriber try it.

## PERSONAL.

Thomas F. Pender, an usher at the White House, remembers President Lincoln quite well. Mr. Pender is nearing 70 years of age. He says Abraham Lincoln was the joy of his life and the comfort of his old age. "My hand it was that held his life when he left the White House on that fatal 14th of April," he says. "I was still at the door when they came with the news that the President had been shot, and I ran upstairs, at once and told Capt. Robert, his son." Many more sad stories could be told of his grief-stricken heart, and then he shows his souvenirs—a photograph of a bearded youth, which is inscribed "To Thomas F. Pender, with kind regards of Robert T. Lincoln"; a photograph of Abraham Lincoln, which is inscribed "To Thomas F. Pender, with kind regards of Robert T. Lincoln"; a letter to "His Excellency, Andrew Johnson, President," which says: "You will confer a personal favor upon me by retaining as principal bookkeeper Thomas F. Pender. He has been a sober, honest, faithful, and obliging servant." It is signed, "Yours respectfully, Robert T. Lincoln." A letter of similar import from Robert T. Lincoln is also among his treasures, and a bit of the coat which was worn by the President when he met at the carriage with him and he said to me: "Good-bye, Andrew." I was still at the door when they came with the news that the President had been shot, and I ran upstairs, at once and told Capt. Robert, his son. Many more sad stories could be told of his grief-stricken heart, and then he shows his souvenirs—a photograph of a bearded youth, which is inscribed "To Thomas F. Pender, with kind regards of Robert T. Lincoln"; a photograph of Abraham Lincoln, which is inscribed "To Thomas F. Pender, with kind regards of Robert T. Lincoln"; a letter to "His Excellency, Andrew Johnson, President," which says: "You will confer a personal favor upon me by retaining as principal bookkeeper Thomas F. Pender. 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